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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/696,635	10/25/00	TAUTVYDAS	K 11536-001001

<input type="checkbox"/>	CHRISTOPHER D GRAM	HM22/0928	<input type="checkbox"/>	EXAMINER	JIANG, S
3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY OFFICE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY COUNSEL			<input type="checkbox"/>	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
P O BOX 33427 ST PAUL MN 55133			1617		
			DATE MAILED:	09/28/01	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/696,635	TAUTVYDAS ET AL.
	Examiner Shaojia A. Jiang	Art Unit 1617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 September 2001.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-11, 13-16 and 18-25 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) 12, 17 and 26-30 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-11, 13-16 and 18-25 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4 .

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This application claims priority to provisional application Serial No. 60/167,250.

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election **without** traverse of the invention of Group I, claims 1-11, 13-16, and 18-25, in Paper No. 6 submitted September 7, 2001 is acknowledged.

Claims 12, 17, and 26-30 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made without traverse in Paper No. 6.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 4 contains the trademark/trade name EDTA. Where a trademark or trade name is used in a claim as a limitation to identify or describe a particular material or product, the claim does not comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. See *Ex parte Simpson*, 218 USPQ 1020 (Bd. App. 1982). The claim scope is uncertain since the trademark or trade name cannot be used properly to identify any particular material or product. A trademark or trade name is used to identify a source of goods, and not the goods themselves. Thus, a trademark or trade name does not identify or describe the goods associated with the trademark or trade name. In the present case, the trademark/trade name is used to identify/describe

ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid and, accordingly, the identification/description is indefinite.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-11 and 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Andrews et al. (PTO-1449 submitted January 24, 2001).

Andrews et al. discloses an antimicrobial composition comprising a fatty acid monoester such as glycerol monolaurate and propylene glycol monolaurate in amounts within the instant claim, an enhancer in amounts within the instant claim (e.g., a chelating agent, EDTA, or an organic acid such as lactic acid), anionic surfactants such as dodecylbenzene sulfonate salts and lauryl sulfate salts, and a vehicle such as water and ethanol. See abstract, col.2 lines 38-55, col.3 lines 1-8, col.4 lines 36-62, col.5 lines 4-13 and 20-39, and claims 1-9. Thus, Andrews et al. anticipates the claimed invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and

the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 18-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Andrews et al. (PTO-1449 submitted January 24, 2001).

Andrews et al. discloses an antimicrobial composition comprising a fatty acid monoester such as glycerol monolaurate and propylene glycol monolaurate in amounts within the instant claim, an enhancer in amounts within the instant claim (e.g., a chelating agent, EDTA, or an organic acid such as lactic acid), anionic surfactants such as dodecylbenzene sulfonate salts and lauryl sulfate salts, and a vehicle such as water and ethanol. See abstract, col.2 lines 38-55, col.3 lines 1-8, col.4 lines 36-62, col.5 lines 4-13 and 20-39, and claims 1-9.

Andrews et al. do not expressly disclose a kit comprising the same known composition and an article of manufacture comprising the same known composition.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to prepare a kit comprising the same known composition or an article of manufacture comprising the same known composition.

One having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to prepare a kit comprising the same known composition or an article of manufacture comprising the same known composition because the preparation of a kit comprising the same known composition of Andrews et al. or an article of manufacture comprising the same known composition of Andrews et al. is considered well within the skill of artisan and involves merely routine skill in the art.

Thus the claimed invention as a whole is clearly *prima facie* obvious over the teachings of the prior art.

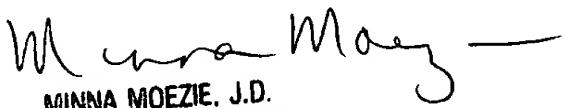
In view of the rejection to the pending claim set forth above, no claims are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Jiang, whose telephone number is (703) 305-1008. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Minna Moezie, J.D., can be reached on (703) 308-4612. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-4556.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-1235.

Shaojia A. Jiang, Ph.D.
Patent Examiner, AU 1617
September 18, 2001


MINNA MOEZIE, J.D.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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